MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There are 20 Roman Catholic teachers in the English branch, and 180 in the Vernacular branch of the Department.

Roman Catholics in the Public Works Department.

134. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Roman Catholic Christians holding appointments carrying a salary of Rs. 25 and above in the Public Works Department?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Seventeen.

Sanction of Government for Officers to sue S. M. P. A. Members and Members of Council.

135. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to rule that, in the same way as the people cannot, without the sanction of Government, sue some of the officers, Government officers cannot, without the sanction of Government, sue the representatives of the people who are members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly or the Legislative Council?

(*b*) As corrupt officers are likely to harbour ill-feeling against the people's representatives who always oppose their wrongful acts, do not Government consider that such a provision has become a great necessity?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) & (*b*) It is not clear whether the member is referring to Civil Court or Criminal Court proceedings, or to the enactment of any Regulation or the issue of departmental instructions. In regard to Criminal proceedings, the member is referred to Section 173 (*d*) of the Criminal Procedure Code. The question of extending the applicability of that section to Legislative Council members also will be considered. In regard to departmental instructions relating to Civil and Criminal proceedings by Government, the Member is referred to G. O. No. J. 835, dated 16-2-1910, published in the Land Revenue Manual, Vol III, page 75. The Government do not propose to curtail the rights of Government officers, in regard to suits or prosecutions relating to private matters.

Speed Limit for Motor Buses.

136. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) Have the bus-owners sent in their objections in accordance with the notification R. O. C. No. 3659, published in the *Government Gazette*, dated the 8th September, 1925, regulating the speed of buses?

(*b*) If so, have they been considered by the Government? Will the Government be pleased to state what their decision is?

(*c*) Have the Government had occasion to know that the buses designed to cover a distance of 15 to 20 miles in an hour will consume a greater quantity of petrol if driven at a speed of 11 miles per hour?

(*d*) As long as buses afford facilities and safety to passengers, will the Government be pleased to encourage bus-owners by sanctioning a higher speed, so that buses may not cease to ply on account of the stringency of the rules?

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MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*):
(*a*) Some objections have been received.
(*b*) The objections received are under consideration.
(*c*) No.
(*d*) The suggestion will be considered.

Kottayam-Parur Anchal Transport Contract.

137. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) When was the contract for Anchal articles between Kottayam and Parur being carried in motor car given?

(*b*) Was this contract given on inviting tenders?

(*c*) How many sent in tenders? Will the Government be pleased to state the rates offered by each?

(*d*) Was it provided in the *Gazette* notification that the contract would be given to the person offering the lowest rate? Was the contract given in accordance with that provision?

(*e*) If not, will the Government be pleased to state the reason therefor?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government on other duty*):
(*a*) The contract was sanctioned by Government in July 1925, and the service was started from the 1st Kanni 1101.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Eight persons sent in tenders. The rates offered were B. Rs. 1,000, 985, 949, 900, 899, 835, 801 and 700, per mensem.

(*d*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The latter part of the question does not arise in view of the answer to the first part.

(*e*) This question also does not arise in view of the answer to part (*d*) above.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): കുറഞ്ഞ ടെണ്ടർകാരനു തന്നെയാണോ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government on other duty*): കുറഞ്ഞ ടെണ്ടറിനനുസരിച്ചു് കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): അതിനു എട്ടുപേർ ടെണ്ടർ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നു. അതായതു് ൧,൦൦൦, ൯൬൫, ൯൪൯, ൯൦൦, ൮൯൯, ൮൩൫, ൮൦൧, ൭൦൦–ഇങ്ങനെ എട്ടുപേരാണു് ടെണ്ടർ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്. അതിൽ കുറഞ്ഞതുകക്കാരനു തന്നെയാണോ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government on other duty*): കുറഞ്ഞ തുകക്കാരനല്ലാ, കുറഞ്ഞ തുകയ്ക്കാണു് കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ഈ കുറഞ്ഞ തുകക്കുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു് കുറഞ്ഞ ടെണ്ടർകാരനോടു ആലോചിച്ചു തന്നെയാണു് കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ൧൦൦ രൂപയിൽ നിന്നും കുറഞ്ഞ ഒരു തുകയ്ക്കു കൊടുത്തു എന്നാണു് ഞാൻ അർത്ഥമാക്കുന്നതു്.

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